

### REMARKS

The Office Action of August 15, 2006, and the references cited therein have been carefully considered. The indication that claims 7-9 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the claim or claims from which they depend, has been noted with appreciation.

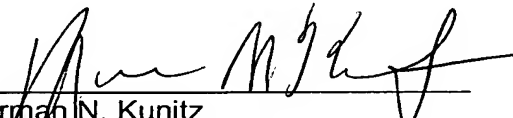
In this Amendment, the specification has been amended to correct noted informalities, and the claims have been amended to place the application in condition for allowance. In particular, each of claims 7-9 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the claims from which they previously depended, claim 12 has been amended to depend from, claim 7, new claims 13 and 14 containing the limitations of claim 12 but dependent on claims 8 and 9, respectively, have been added, and rejected claims 1-6, 10 and 11 have been cancelled.

In view of the above amendments, it is submitted that claims 7-9 are clearly in condition for allowance. Moreover, each of claims 12-14 depends from one of claims 7-9. Thus, it is submitted that all of the pending claims, i.e., claims 7-9 and 12-14, are in condition for allowance, and such action and the passing of this application to issue therefore are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that the prosecution of this application would be advanced by a personal interview, then the Examiner is invited to telephone undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

By:   
Norman N. Kunitz  
Registration No. 20,586

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY  
One Lafayette Centre  
1120 20<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Suite 750S  
Washington, DC 20036  
Telephone: (202) 419-7000  
Facsimile: (202) 419-7007